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BAROQUE PERIOD

In music, the Baroque period dates from about 1600 to 1750. During this period, Shakespeare, Galileo, Isaac Newton and Rembrandt were making their mark in literature, astronomy, physics and art.

The most important Baroque composers include J. S. Bach, George Frideric Handel and Domenico Scarlatti, all of whom were born in 1685. Baroque music is usually grand, expressive and dramatic. Keyboard music was played on the harpsichord, clavichord or organ. But in 1709, the piano was invented, and Bach was impressed with the possibilities of this new instrument.

Johann Krieger (1651–1735)

Krieger was a German organist and composer born 34 years before Bach, Handel and Scarlatti. His brother was his first music teacher, and later in life he succeeded his brother as court organist and composer at Bayreuth. Handel thought highly of Krieger's keyboard music and recommended it as a model to other composers.

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681–1767)

Telemann was a self-taught musician who first studied law at the University of Leipzig but later became a highly respected composer. He wrote so much music that even he did not know exactly how many compositions he had written! During his lifetime, he was probably even better known than J. S. Bach.

Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach (1722–1725)

The two volumes known as the *Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach* were prepared by J. S. Bach as presents to his second wife, Anna Magdalena, for the instruction of their children. The notebook contains pieces composed by Bach himself, by his children and by other composers of the time. Many of them are anonymous, like the "Bourrée" in our collection.

Christian Petzold (1677–1733)

Petzold was a German organist and composer who worked as court organist in the town of Dresden and must have been a friend of Johann Sebastian Bach's. The "Minuet" in our collection is from the *Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach* and is one of the most popular pieces in the notebook.

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694–1772)

A French organist and composer, Daquin was born in Paris and spent most of his life there. He was considered the most outstanding French organist of his generation. In 1735, he published a large collection of harpsichord pieces from which "Shouts of Hunters" is taken.

Minuet

From the Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach







